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(2) if so, whether the Government propose to call for the views of both the municipalities concerned and also of the people in both the places?

A.—The Government have no such intention.

*Slaughter of useful cattle.*

318 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras Government have issued a general order declaring that municipal resolutions prohibiting the slaughter of useful cattle are *ultra vires*; and

(b) the grounds of that order?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The Government are advised that this is the legal position.

11-30 a.m. Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know if the Government have any idea of changing the law on the point ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not think there is any necessity for any change in the law.”

Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB :—“ May I know if any representations have been received from the municipalities with reference to this matter ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I should like to have notice of this question, Sir.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“ May I know from the hon. the Minister whether, though he finds it difficult to take steps to change the law, in the case of useful cattle he will see the advisability of changing the law so as to permit local bodies to prohibit the slaughter of useful cows as distinguished from cattle ? ”

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“ May I ask him whether certain communities like the Muhammadan have not expressed dissent from empowering local councils to prohibit the slaughter of cows, as it might be an interference with what they conceive to be their religious privilege or right to sacrifice ? ”

(No answer.)

Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB :—“ Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the text of the advice referred to in the answer to clause (b) ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I have no objection to lay it on the table.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether this Government received any instructions from the Government of India on the subject ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ There is no communication from the Government of India.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state further whether the resolution of the Local and Municipal Conference at Cocanada has been communicated to Government on this point ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The answer is in the affirmative.”



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Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"Is the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government aware that the Muhammadans have no objection to that resolution being given effect to?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Sir, I cannot say that. The Muhammadan community is a large community and what the views of this individual or that individual member of that community are I am not prepared to say."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—"Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to say at least now after this discussion, whether he would consider the desirability of taking steps in that direction?"

(No answer.)

*Travelling allowance of the local board presidents.*

319 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) the districts whose local board presidents have not drawn the higher rates of travelling allowance referred to in G.O. No. 163, Finance, dated 18th February 1921, for the period 1st March 1921 to 31st March 1923;

(2) whether in the case of other districts the Government have directed that no local board president should be allowed to draw the higher rates of travelling allowances for the period 1st March 1921 to 31st March 1923 and the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has accordingly requested the presidents of various local boards to recover the excess travelling allowance drawn during the period;

(3) how the presidents of local bodies referred to in clause (2) above were permitted to draw higher rates of travelling allowance month after month for two years; and

(4) the officer or officers responsible for such overdrawal without any objection and the action taken by the Government in regard to their right to enforce the travelling allowance rules relating to presidents?

A.—The Government issued a general order in the matter and apparently the Examiner has taken action under that Government Order. The whole question is however under the consideration of Government.

*The Ootacamund municipality.*

320 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Ootacamund Municipal Council has resolved to have an elected Chairman on Rs. 500 a month;

(b) whether the Government have passed orders on that resolution to the following effect, viz., that the Government are not prepared to pay any contribution towards the salary of the Chairman, if he is elected by the Council, but that the Government will appoint a Chairman and pay him, if the Council agrees; and

(c) the reasons why, when the Municipal Council is willing to elect and pay its own Chairman, the Government should insist on a nominated Chairman?